

from a large number of Collieries and Areas. Such details are not maintained centrally. It is felt that the time and effort required for collection and compilation of these details may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved.

[English]

Tax on Pan Masala Manufacturing Companies

5626. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pan Masala Industry in the country is one of the highest tax evader sector;

(b) if so, the estimated outstanding excise duty against the Pan Masala Industry during 1994, 1995 and 1996 (till date) and which of the manufacturers of the product are the biggest excise tax evaders; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the excise tax dues from the Pan Masala manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Up-to-date information is not readily available. The same is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

MRTPC Investigation against Multi-National Soft Drink Companies

5627. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate General of Investigation and Registration of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has investigated into multi-national soft drink companies franchise agreements;

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received the recommendations from the Directorate General of Investigation and Registration so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether any action has been taken by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission against these companies;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the time by which the recommendations are likely to be received from the DGIR ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Director General of Investigation & Registration (DGI&R) has scrutinised 23 agreements entered into by M/s. Coca Cola Company, USA and M/s Pepsico Inc, New York, USA with bottlers in India and noticed that several clauses of these agreements relate to restrictive trade practices. The DGI&R has, therefore, filed 23 applications with the Monopolies and Restrictive

Trade Practices Commission under Section 10 (a) (iii) of MRTP Act, 1969 for institution of restrictive trade practices inquiries against M/s Coca Cola Company, USA with their 22 bottlers and M/s. Pepsico Inc New York, USA with their one bottler for having entered into the bottler's agreements containing alleged restrictive clauses attracting the provisions of Section 33 (1) read with Section 2 (0) of the MRTP Act, 1969.

(c), (d) and (g). The DGI&R does not make any recommendation to the Government in such cases. The DGI&R files applications under Section 10(a) (iii) of the MRTP Act, 1969 before the MRTP Commission for necessary enquiry into the alleged restrictive trade practices arising out of the terms and conditions of the agreements.

(e) and (f). Out of the 23 applications filed by DGI&R, the MRTP Commission has last heard two applications pertaining to M/s. Coca Cola Company, USA with their bottler M/s Brindvan Agro Industries, Hathras and M/s Pepsico Inc New York, USA with their bottler M/s. Agra Beverages Corp. Ltd. on 20.8.1996 and 27.8.1996 respectively and in both cases the Orders have been reserved by the Commission.

Export of Soyabean

5628. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Soyabean exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of Soyabean ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Soyabean was not exported during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95. The country-wise details of exports of soyabean during 1995-96 (April-Feb. 96) are as follows :

Country	Oty. (in Mts)	Value (in Rs. lakhs)
Bangladesh	15	1.15
Myanmar	18	3.93
Total	33	5.08

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(b) To enhance production and productivity of oilseeds including soyabean, Technology Mission on Oilseeds was launched in 1986. Currently exportable surpluses at competitive prices are not available.

Foreign Direct Investment

5629. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total foreign direct investment received during each of the last three years;